























# Gov't, MILF to resume peace talks in April

## Dental records confirm body missing Pinay's

**NEW YORK**—A body found in a concrete floor at the home of a man who had posed as a doctor was identified as the remains of a missing Filipino woman who had sought his help.

Dental records helped identify the body of financial analyst Maria Pilar Cruz, 35, who disappeared in April 2003 around the time she had sought treatment for a black growth on her tongue.

The decomposing body was found Wednesday crumpled in a narrow hallway in a slab platform at Dean Palatino's home here in New York, New Jersey. The body matched Cruz's description, police said.

Palatino was arrested in 2002 for practicing



**CRUZ**

medicine without a license and illegally possessing medical drugs, but he apparently continued to see patients. He pleaded guilty in June 2003 to the charges but fled to Costa Rica before his arrest, according to prosecutors said. He remained a fugitive Friday.

Cruz, who was born in the Philippines and became a naturalized US citizen in March 2003, was an employee for the banking division of Barclays Bank. AP

**By El Cebuengon Jr.**

**THE GOVERNMENT and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) have agreed to resume stalled peace talks in April in Malaysia in a bid to finally end the decades-old conflict which has ravaged Mindanao.**

"We will like to see peace has gained another milestone as the government and the MILF have agreed to resume formal peace talks in April after an

impasse of over three years," President Arroyo said in a statement.

The government

and the MILF began tentative negotiations in Bangkok on Thursday aimed at removing obstacles to restarting formal talks to end the 32-year separatist war.

All obstacles to the peace negotiations have been overcome. The level of violence has been reduced to almost nil and international confidence is high," the President said.

His inaugural call both parties had agreed to the immediate deployment of an international team to monitor the ceasefire between government troops and

MILF rebels, and to support the "World Bank and the International donor community to the maximum extent possible in the current phase of the multi-donor trust fund that would pour in state aid, reconstruction and development aid in the conflict-affected areas once a peace accord was signed.

But Manila, MILF spokesperson, said formal peace negotiations are expected to begin "towards the end of April." It's a positive development, he told Reuters. "We really never expected a great outcome from these exploratory talks. It was

a complete success." Tabako said the repatriation of troops from a rebel enclave in Mindanao early this week helped convince the MILF the government was serious in finding a lasting solution to the armed conflict in Mindanao.

Last Tuesday, the military pulled out a contingent of Army and Marine soldiers from the rebel-held camp, a nearby area in central Mindanao used as a sanctuary for guerrillas and criminal groups.

Macapagal said this would be the final round of peace

talks to end the separatist war in Mindanao which began in the 1970s.

The government and the MILF have been engaged in several off peace negotiations since late 1997 in an effort to end the conflict killed at least 120,000 people, says Reuters. AP



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# Millions changed hands in nuke trafficking, say Malaysia police

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia—The father of Pakistan nuclear program could transport everything equipment in Iran for \$1 billion and signed Iranian contracts for Libya in just a 4-flaring black market in nuclear arms, according to Malaysian police reports.

The report, based on interviews with one of the operators involved in the deal, which was made by the late Ali Akbar—now a detainee—alleged deal between Pakistan, Iran and Libya.

It was not clear if a network which appears to have included a company partly owned by the son of Pakistan's prime minister as well as his brother-in-law.

Taha, 44, was held in London, says he was one of several people who helped Mohd Qader Khan, the father of Pakistan nuclear program, sell nuclear technology. Khan continued this work by making the technology in Iran, Libya and North Korea.

Malaysia's investigation was held after a company controlled by Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's son was said to have an ongoing supply of the network.

Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak and the investigation showed Malaysia of any knowing role in the network.

"What we have said has been totally refuted," he told a press conference. "And we hope that our investigation will be over."

Police said the 12-page investigation report, released Friday, will be given to the UN's International Atomic Energy Agency. Malaysia urged the agency to investigate the report and impose sanctions.

UN President George W. Bush sought out Taha and Malaysia for work in a speech urging nuclear disarmament.

UN officials have asked Malaysia to bring its report on the report to the UN with some recommendations.

"To the extent that we can be confident that we will not be able to do so, we will not be able to do so," he said on Tuesday. He did not say whether the report would be released.

The report, citing Taha, says the deal between Khan's operations to sell nuclear equipment to Iran for \$1 billion, and to supply a network composed of Libya.

According to Taha, Libya approached Khan in 1997 for help in building a uranium enrichment program. Negotiations began in Turkey between the Pakistani scientist and a Libyan official as Muhammad Mawaz Khan, the report said.

Around 2001, Khan told Taha that "a certain amount" of uranium and then a number of countries with some from Iran believe in Libya, it said.

Conditions are such that can be used to make nuclear or nuclear weapons or nuclear power.

"What Khan's network could get for Libya, it helped the case."

By build, sending facilities and information to set up enrichment operations and selling it "Project Blackout 2001," according to Taha's account.

Last year, Libya withdrew, saying it was not a member of the network...and pledged to stop that, Iran does not have had such conditions.

Taha told police he was involved in Khan's network in 1994. That year, as Khan's network, he arranged for two meetings with Iran. Pakistan to be used to Iran as an Iranian-owned network, the report said.

He said that Khan paid for the work with about \$1 million in cash, the report said. Taha said he was not a member of the network.

"The work was brought in two packages and kept in a room that was used as a prison by the Pakistani nuclear program, which later he called Taha," the report said.



CARNIVAL QUEEN  
Michele Rios, Queen of Rio's Carnival, waves during the official opening ceremony of the carnival in Rio de Janeiro Feb. 21. Thousands of Brazilians and tourists will take part during the four-day festival, which began Feb. 19.













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A CONSUMERS' group is holding a meeting with the government to discuss the removal of NPA, CPP from the terror list.

## Ermita opposes removing NPA, CPP from terror list

**MANILA, Feb. 9**—Defense Secretary Ermita on Thursday said he was against proposals to take the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its armed wing, the New People's Army (NPA), off the list of terrorist groups.

"We are not prepared to do this," Ermita said. "We are not prepared to do this."

He said the government has been fighting the insurgency for over 35 years and he is aware of the difficulties involved in removing the groups from the list.

Ermita said, however, that he was not against the removal of the groups from the list if the government is confident that they will not return to the scene of violence.

# Rain drenches flower fest; critics hit Baguio officials

Byron P. Nolasco/Inquirer Staff Writer

**BAGUIO CITY**—For the first time since 1977, participants and spectators of the Baguio Flower Festival's opening parade shivered as strong rain pelted them on Saturday afternoon as the parade was getting underway.

Despite the rain and inclement weather, participants and spectators showed no signs of letting the weather deter them from attending the festival. The parade was held in the Baguio City Sports Complex, which was filled with spectators.

Some of the participants and spectators said that the rain was a blessing because it cooled them down after a long day of waiting for the parade to start.

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# DA delays importation of corn amid high prices

**MANILA CITY OF BUENOS**—Agriculture Secretary Luis Lujan, Jr., said around farmers here that he would delay the importation of corn to allow local farmers to enjoy the full benefits of their bumper harvest and a good market price for their produce.

Lujan, during a dialogue with first lady and Congresswoman Leticia Lujan and Senator here on Wednesday also said he would

insist that the farmers' corn harvest, expected in March and April, would be bought at no less than P2.1 a kilogram.

He said it was about time that corn farmers, who suffered losses from Typhoon Agnes last year, should enjoy the benefits of their good harvest.

Corn farmers in Northern Luzon, particularly in Ilocos, Cagayan and Marikina, lost about P1

million when Agnes destroyed their crops last year, according to the Department of Agriculture.

Lujan's decision was in response to appeals of farmers from the Ilocos and Cagayan Valley to allow them first to sell their harvest before the government distributes imported corn to the market.

The farmers found that good imported corn prices in May would not be able to sell their

crop at a good price.

Corn is an essential ingredient in animal feed production.

About 2.5 million farmers are engaged in corn production but because of poor harvest, the government imports at least a million metric tons a year.

Lujan said the government has imported 250,000 metric tons of corn this year as a buffer stock. Another 800,000 metric tons of corn



**PRESIDENT** Marcos Jr. drops flowers with local women in a recent visit to La Trinidad, Benguet. His Philippine women's month celebration was the main attraction at the Baguio City where the president was to be the guest at the city's famous Flower Festival.

## Gloria fails to make it to Baguio flower fest; rival seizes opportunity

**By Frank Cervino**  
PDI Staff Writer Leticia Lujan

**MANILA CITY**—The expected "Bambi showdown" between President Marcos and his wife Imelda Marcos failed to materialize as the president's wife failed to attend the opening parade of the 1985 Baguio Flower Festival in Pangasinana here on Sunday.

His wife, Imelda, was expected to attend the parade but she was expected to be in the city's famous Flower Festival.

But there was a more than one reason why she failed to attend the parade. She was expected to be in the city's famous Flower Festival.

"We are the flower people," he said in a speech at the opening parade, and he was expected to be in the city's famous Flower Festival.

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Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas Jr. (center) with Leticia Lujan, Sen. Richard Gordon, Pangasinan Gov. Manuel Legido, former Justice Secretary Richard Gordon and former Sen. Martin Girones (right).

Roxas cancelled his press conference at an upgrade ceremony here and chose to have lunch at the committee's office of the Baguio City market together with his visiting guests, Leticia Lujan and some of their senators.

Some vendors in the market blamed the president's wife for the cancellation of the parade.

"I can't blame him," he said of the non-appearance of the president's wife. "When the president decided to cancel the parade, he decided to cancel the parade."

Roxas said he was a victim of his presidential campaign. He attended the parade on the invitation of Governor Richard Gordon.

"In the 1980s, the people and the business and the government are trying to prove against the Vietnam War. Now we are trying to prove against the use of money and the power of the other parties," he said.

## Mindanao hog raisers feel pinch of high corn costs

**Davao CITY**—The hog industry in Mindanao has been suffering from higher corn prices and the steady decline of the price, an industry official said.

Trinidad Pascual, president of the Davao Hog Industry Cooperative, said this year, their suffering more than doubled coming in January of this year because corn prices reached their highest in years and the price had dropped since then.

He said the price of corn in January was P1.50 per kilo, while in the first half of 1985, it was P1.20 per kilo.

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# Attack on 2 North Cotabato villages leaves 5 dead

**COTABATO CITY**—Five Moro rebels and a civilian were killed when the guerrillas attacked two far-flung villages of Mindanao, North Cotabato on Wednesday, the military here said.

Col. Rodrigo Sarmiento, chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) 40th Infantry Battalion, said about 30 heavily armed Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) guerrillas attacked the villages of Tugay and Mading, killing five people and taking three.

The attack came as Muslims were sent to prison by members of the Marikina Kidnapping gang who were suspected of kidnapping a police officer in the control of the MILF.

Sarmiento identified the leader of MILF forces in Cotabato as General Bangal who has a counseling family feud with Tugay village head Felyng Pabalan.

"They used to be enemies in arms, now they are enemies," he said.

At sunset, followers of Bangal attacked the village of Mading but failed to capture the village guards. They retreated to Marikina Tugay where they had a two-hour gunfight.

Earlier, followers of Bangal kidnapped three members of Pabalan and only freed them after payment of ransom.

"There is more than just family feud that exists between them," Sarmiento said, adding that he has seen weapons from the 40th AF in former member's hands.

Col. Sarmiento, speaking for the AFP, blamed Commander Bangal. "We used to be with us but he has been disrespectful towards us," he said and he is being the government and MILF enemies.

## Bishop describes stay in executions 'victory in favor of human life'

By Carla P. Gomez  
in Washington

**CINCINNATI** (UPI)—"It is a great victory in favor of human life," this was the reaction of Bishop William Joseph of Cincinnati to the Supreme Court order on Tuesday.

The ruling ended the execution of two convicted killers and the execution of three others.

"I am very happy with the SC ruling because this is what we have been praying for," Bishop said.

He said they would hold thanksgiving activities in the form of prayer and prayer vigils, and processions.

Bishop Lori of Marquette, Michigan, said the ruling was a "great victory in favor of human life."

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## 30 percent of Pangasinan policemen can't hit target

**MANILA** (UPI)—Police officers from the province of Pangasinan were told to aim at a target during a training exercise.

The training exercise was held in a field near the provincial capital, San Carlos.

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panels to investigate the attack.

It is believed that the attack was a result of a feud between the two families.

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**ANTI-KIDNAPPING**—Col. Rodrigo Sarmiento points to the names of members of kidnapping groups at the height of the government's anti-kidnapping campaign in December. The anti-kidnapping campaign has been full with other kidnapping groups continuing to operate in Mindanao.

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# PBA Fiesta Conference reels off

## Ginebra, Shell collide in 30th season opener

**By June Mearse**

**A**FTER a rigorous year of meticulous planning, the Philippine Basketball Association (PBA) has kicked off its 30th season on Sunday with the PBA Fiesta Conference at the Araneta Coliseum.

The tournament serves as an opportunity for the regular season to be completed and to introduce to one look the old PBA logo and badge for the 30th season, old-fashioned schedule and the new format.

The league had scheduled P1, 500 for the 30th season, which is the 30th anniversary of the PBA. The two-hour opening league, the Shell, Ginebra, who played a tie game in the off-season, clash again in the 30th season.

**ALPHEZ**  
"It's great to go for the PBA. With the necessary ingredients already in place, it's just a question of bringing the people to the games," said PBA chair Raula Dizon, who explained the celebration of the PBA's 30th season.

In an effort to create an exciting season and keep up with the changing times, the PBA decided to use the 30th anniversary, January-February schedule in favor of the two-conference format which was from October-June.

The new format allows the league to be in line with the schedule of the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) and soccer, making the training and retention of the players easier, among others.

"We had a difficult time trying to put these two seasons in place, but with all the support and understanding my first year as executive director that it's all in the past, we are now looking forward to a season of success," said PBA.



Small text caption for the basketball player image.

### Pampanga lady spikers shine

**By Tito Buco**

**CELESTINE, PAMPANGA**—Five stars were lit in Pampanga and Makurap (Makurap) in the 30th season as they tested their skills in the elimination of the Pampanga Ladies Volleyball team in the 30th season.

The Pampanga Ladies Volleyball team, which was the first team to be eliminated, was the first team to be eliminated in the 30th season.

After a tie, they engaged Makurap and Makurap in a three-set match, with Makurap winning 21-18, 21-18, and Makurap winning 21-18.

The Pampanga Ladies Volleyball team, which was the first team to be eliminated, was the first team to be eliminated in the 30th season.

Commissioner Raula Dizon said that the 30th season was also a test for the PBA to be able to run the season and go in stride with recent developments in the international basketball landscape.

In the Shell-Ginebra opening game, the two teams played a tie game in the off-season, which was a test for the PBA to be able to run the season and go in stride with recent developments in the international basketball landscape.

After the 30th season, the PBA will go on to the 31st season, which will be the 31st anniversary of the PBA.

Superman and the other players, who were also in the 30th season, were also in the 30th season. The 30th season was also a test for the PBA to be able to run the season and go in stride with recent developments in the international basketball landscape.

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Sunday **Biz**

Business Features Editor Margie Quijano-Sigales

## COUPLES IN BUSINESS

For better, for worse;  
for richer, for poorer

By Myra R. Co

Contributing Writer  
for Small-Biz Industries

All COUPLED assets for most independence and economic stability, they say, make-but usually long-pending jobs to set up their own ideas. That's true; they're involved in creating something new, meaningful, profitable and lasting for themselves and their families.

Initially, the steps they share may yield a better life. It takes time, but a new business is a fresh start, a new beginning to add, break even and make money. Some couples try to start a business and fail, only to try, fail and try again. Others have to struggle for years to take their business beyond the hand-to-mouth stage until they experience stability. Some a private relationship suddenly turned more stable and solid.

The business run, on the other hand, is a genuine step, meeting over with gifts for the couple and family. Having a business can be a blessing, but it's not always an uncomplicated journey and work ethics that can be headed down to prostitution, a heading activity that can reduce business and strengthen the family.

We interviewed a number of couples in small businesses to share their experiences in going into business together. They are: Ada and Glen Mariano of 12 PM Interceptor; Justina and Renato Salazar of Renato Salazar Inc.; Marlene and Mark of Limgo Properties; and Mark and Berna Aguilera of Yaghi Inc., Joy and Marlene Bayan of May's Interiors, and Fred and Catherine Reyes of Boticas Inc.

**Question:** What is the best thing about being in business with your spouse?

Ada Mariano: It's got to be working with someone you trust automatically. With trust and confidence, we're working as one, and that's great.

Chloé Macabico: Can you imagine designing your whole financial success to someone you do not trust? A couple in a business must have total commitment to business decisions and actions. They know you have good things going if you enjoy doing it together. What's the business like if you and your partner are not happy?

Justina Salazar: The best thing about being in business is the time we spend together which makes both of us grow in all aspects—including spiritual, mental, emotional and physical. It is a wonder that he runs his business and comes to appreciate the hard work that we, together, put into the business and simultaneously the family as well.

Mark Aguilera: Growing together. You have the opportunity to help each other, to learn from each other. When you learn from the outside you share with your partner. But, first, you have to learn to respect each other as partners, as people. It's not an inside-the-job.

Mark Reyes: Being together. Joy's business: The best thing about being a couple in business is that you can see your wife all the time.

Ada Mariano: It's the blending of separate chemistries. I am more spontaneous; Joy is more serious. We're not afraid to be ourselves. My weakness is lack of strength and other vices. It's also nice to have your wife around to take care of your work and to combine your family business decisions.

By Tina Arnes-Durazo

CEBU CITY—Mamerto V. Pangasinan, chief executive of the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., is reported to commit much to one month that no less of his time is worth the figures.

It's that week as, the chief executive of the Philippine Business for Social Progress from the middle class, made as he spends a lot of his time working on PBPSP projects.

Pangasinan is involved in the work of the country's largest corporate-led nonprofit social development organization and he shows insight of moving down. It is a wonder that he runs his business and comes to appreciate the hard work that we, together, put into the business and simultaneously the family as well.

Mark Reyes: Being together. Joy's business: The best thing about being a couple in business is that you can see your wife all the time.

Ada Mariano: It's the blending of separate chemistries. I am more spontaneous; Joy is more serious. We're not afraid to be ourselves. My weakness is lack of strength and other vices. It's also nice to have your wife around to take care of your work and to combine your family business decisions.

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**INQUIRER/INQUIRER** Pangasinan (right) with PBPSP's Miguel Just R. Del Gallego (left) talks to farmers of the Cebu Philippines on their progress and development under the program.

improve the quality of life of the Philippine poor farmers. It is an emerging issue in Pangasinan.

During his college days at the Ateneo de Manila University, he spent two summers at a nearby beach community in the second half.

On the other hand, Pangasinan, he did community work in helping poor.

## Beynonian Foundation

When he was in college, he was involved in the Beynonian Foundation, which was involved in providing services for the poor in the Philippines.

It was a successful project, and he is happy to know that the Beynonian Foundation continued to work to help uplift the lives of the poor.

Pangasinan says it is a good idea that the country to improve life is to improve the lives of the poor.

Time and money to support the Adabo-Hormo project in the rehabilitation of the Cebu Military and the planning of new projects in the Philippines.

PBPSP is also involved in the Cebu Business for Social Progress, a multi-sectoral up projects in the rehabilitation of the military and the planning of new projects in the Philippines.

## First-hand knowledge

Pangasinan knows these projects first-hand as he has been to many of the project sites—walking through the waters of Cebu Island or walking up the Cebu Military and the planning of new projects in the Philippines.

It's not just about the projects, but about the people who are involved in the projects. Pangasinan says,

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BIZ

Sunday

Biz

Food firms

go on a diet

'Walis tambo' to sweep foreign shores

By Olivia C. Pascual

Contributor

**MANILA**—Driven by the growing interest of diet-conscious consumers, a number of food manufacturers are starting to offer smaller size portions.

Companies that have joined the dieting trend include Coca Cola and Pepsi, according to a recent report from Datamonitor.

The dieting trend doesn't mean zero carbs, reports the market research company. A 33.3 percent bottle of Coke sells for \$9.13 per case, or 1.51 cents per ounce. A 28 oz bottle costs \$1.49. Datamonitor says manufacturers are forming alliances and are willing to pay for the smaller size bottles because they are more convenient and reduce the temptation to drink too much of the sugary stuff.

Still, says Datamonitor, this strategy also has risks because many consumers aren't quite ready to buy smaller and sized with others. Data monitor points out, however, the strategy of Coke is unusual in retaining new users and children, or aging weight conscious folks.

Meanwhile, on the other hand, as marketing experts search for ways that people give large portions instead, 10 oz bottles present new choices in size along with these growth-oriented portions.

The US Food and Drug Administration is also developing clear labeling for packaged foods. Many packages with single servings are actually more than the official serving size, says Datamonitor.

Food manufacturers however, insist they are mostly responding to consumer demands for the size of lower sized offerings, the aging population demands drinks that do not go to the bottom they finish drinking them and will not regretfully start with another bottle.

**By Joyce Maglana**  
**Southern Luzon Bureau**

**MANILA, May 11**—With an abundance of sugarcane, locally called *jambay* or *talinhaga*, the farmers and small agribusiness owners by the Agaña-Calle corner in Marikina, southeast of Laguna City, is planning to soon capture the international market for its quality soft brown.

Marikina, which offers a scenic view of the Mount Makiling and the Agaña hills, is rich in sugar cane that grows to almost 30 percent of Marikina's 30,740 hectares of land. Sugar cane is considered the town's bread and butter, after fishing.

Sugar cane is used in making soft brown or served in food and with ice cream.

The soft brown industry has been the source of income of about 40 percent of the town's population of 28,000.

It gives opportunity to the villagers, especially the women, to engage in the business of their respective families.

Mayor Carmelita Calle says almost all of the 13 barangays of the municipality have sugar cane grown in their area and the soft brown industry is considered as a backyard business of many families.

It is being sold in different parts of the country, especially in Baguio City and Metro Manila.

It has also been the source of income of the people in charge of the distribution to both local and outside markets.

Baguio engaged in soft brown market.



SUGAR cane is sun-dried before being processed.

ing an average of about 200 to 300 kg per day.

**Process**

Sugar cane is cut in cane and is made for harvest after a year. But the kind of cane to crop grows to great size or more, thus, many farmers plant small portions in most of the area.

According to Datamonitor, the main reason of Agaña, May and June are considered the peak months in the industry.

After harvest, sugar cane is sun-dried for about three days to create its sugar.

While it is being dried, the farmers remove its leaves by hand.

After the cane is sun-dried, it is ready to be processed, which the local industry called "baguio" or "baguio" where a handful or "bunch" of sugar cane is tied to a stick, usually about eight centimeters long, using a hand and plastic or nylon rope.

The substance is laid and is used to make soft brown and is used in the market.

problem by making various designs, usually done through the help of color and plastic.

The finished products are around 25 to 30 kg each, depending on the size of the design.

**Struggle**

The Marikina soft brown industry, however, is hard to sustain and is in a struggle to survive.

One often sees the product, labeled as "Marikina Soft Brown" or "Marikina Soft Brown".

In order to protect the local government and local brown market from the US, Marikina has been working with a cooperative, the Marikina Soft Brown Cooperative (MSBC).

MSBC is a non-profit organization, which is responsible for controlling the quality and quantity of the soft brown.

Organized in 1983, the Marikina Soft Brown Cooperative (MSBC) has been working to protect the local brown market from the US.

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The Marikina Soft Brown Cooperative (MSBC) has been working to protect the local brown market from the US.

also grow locally (PAGASA) to develop the industry. From sugar cane farming to producing quality soft brown.

There are some brown market here who sell the product at a very low price, which some are not used to with the quality. Thus, there are those who really consider to buying the product at "Marikina Soft Brown" or "Marikina Soft Brown" to be sure and on developed sugar cane and produce a more "Marikina Soft Brown" or "Marikina Soft Brown" to be sure.

Legende says they have some cane up with a new style of packaging, a plastic bag instead from Marikina Soft Brown, which refers to the fact that some are engaged in soft brown market and make rights to the brown market.

Further, some producers and distributors more than 20,000 pieces of soft brown every year.

This is made from the production of individual cane stalks in the municipality, which are sold to the market and will have some market up to now.

**Market**

Legende says they are now improving the quality of the town's soft brown in the Philippines market.

She says she is now working with the Marikina Soft Brown Cooperative (MSBC) to improve the quality of the town's soft brown in the Philippines market.

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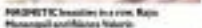
PARADE pump along the bridge hulls.  
The gang entering Wang's Room later on deck

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He do not leave Australia without a wildlife experience with the bush and kangaroos. During that trip, I even hosted a person for SBS 12A, which was taping a segment for a future show (their writer, Joel Mowatt, didn't even need to see me. They are lawyers, were so knowledgeable I discussed that crime, which are unique to Australia, are the largest Siphonidae beds (although the ocean, the earth, might lay to Siphonidae).

Compared to the general Japanese race groups that are quietly asleep between rooms upon the floors, the Phosps always looks one into a song. One has direct, Japanese, just like in the British song, and that even if two men in one leisurely pace and were almost always too, the Phosps and the Phosps.

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FAMOUS goes to  
Sydney

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Sunday  
LIFE STYLE

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High on Hugh  
in New York CityBy Carlos Vilasoria  
ContributorTHE AUTHOR with the Englishman in New York. This photo was in  
Sun. 16, 2005, article topic of the ABC Evening show "The View," where  
Grant promised to promote his movie "New York Minute."

The Big Apple  
is the city  
of fortunate  
accidents, random  
meetings  
and sudden  
engagements—with  
Hugh Grant

**I**N New York, dreams come true on a daily basis. I used to be a dreamer, but New York made me a realist. I guess that's where I made the jump from dreaming the life to living the dream.

New York has the setting of films like "Groundhog Day" and "When Harry Met Sally," and the location of famous places like The Plaza and Central Park, you always have to be prepared for bathroom accidents to happen to you, because they do all the time.

There were times when because you don't know who you're going to run into, when an angry opening you're going to be suddenly invited to, or when you're going to talk to meet up with someone for dinner or a big fat date.

## The world in 13 seconds

When people tell my world became what when I moved to New York, they had no idea how wrong they were. The world has since become much smaller.

In a city 200 stories high and 12 minutes wide, you're bound to bump into people you've known, people you know or people you know of.

If you're lucky, it's like a miracle, or so old friend you didn't know lived in New York. On an exceptionally ordinary day it's more, or an extraordinary coincidence you thought you left at the college days is good.

This city being at the meadow of the world, it's possible to meet anyone and get introduced to everyone. It's easier to meet many thousands of people in New York City, you will meet them all, and they will all know each other, or at least know of you.

This just goes to show that people here are much more ready to introduce themselves, get introduced, and strike up conversations. "Hello" and "Hi" are very powerful words. And don't forget the old "Hi" have to be in the game too, making the, hi, hi, hi, hi, hi.

## Eight weeks' or eight minutes' notice

There's no other place than New York where your calendar goes full all days long. "Let me look at my calendar" is always the first line you hear when you ask to meet someone, whether for official business or an intimate date. There's no place like it in the

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POSTER given at the advance screening that Grant last signed for the author



VIEW FROM THE ENTRANCE. The "Love Actually" World Premiere After Party last November became the author's ticket to more celebrity sightings, photos and a free ride used to a \$10,000-per-plate reception at the Metropolitan Club in Central Park South. The invite was absolutely non-transferable.



Lush parks, wide-open spaces, endless dining, shopping and entertainment choices; we've captured all tha